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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 04 ROME 002370

SIPDIS

STATE FOR IO/EDA WINNICK AND KOTOK  
USAID FOR CUMMINGS, OFDA FOR MENGHETTI  
USDA/FAS FOR REICH AND HUGHES, USDA FOR MARY CHAMBLISS  
UNCLASSIFIED

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FROM FODAG

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: FAO ON "POST CONFLICT" AND OTHER EMERGENCY  
ACTIVITIES

11. SUMMARY: UN FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION (FAO) OFFICIALS BRIEFED DONORS MAY 21 ON THE SITUATION IN SELECTED COUNTRIES (INCLUDING IRAQ) RECEIVING EMERGENCY AGRICULTURAL REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE THROUGH FAO. FAO WELCOMED INCREASING DONOR SUPPORT FOR EMERGENCIES BUT NOTED THAT MANY APPEALS WERE STILL UNDERFUNDED. IN THE CASE OF IRAQ, FAO STAFF STATED THAT AFTER YEARS OF IMPLEMENTING THE AGRICULTURAL PORTION OF THE OIL FOR FOOD (OFF) PROGRAM, FAO HAD THE IN-COUNTRY PERSONNEL AND THE CAPACITY TO MAKE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO IRAQ'S AGRICULTURAL REHABILITATION -- IF ADEQUATELY FUNDED. THE PRESENCE OF THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM'S (WFP) SENIOR EMERGENCY COORDINATOR AT THE PODIUM UNDERScoreD WHAT APPEARS TO BE IMPROVED COORDINATION BETWEEN THE FAO AND WFP ON THE POST-EMERGENCY REHABILITATION CONTINUUM. END SUMMARY.

12. FAO OFFICIALS BRIEFED DONORS MAY 21, 2003 ON THE SITUATION IN SELECTED COUNTRIES RECEIVING EMERGENCY AGRICULTURAL REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE THROUGH FAO. THE FOCUS OF THE BRIEFING WAS PRIMARILY "POST-CONFLICT" COUNTRIES, ALTHOUGH SOUTHERN AFRICA WAS COVERED AS WELL.

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IRAQ

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13. FAO OFFICIALS CHARACTERIZED THE SITUATION IN IRAQ AS "VERY DIFFICULT" AS FAR AS AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PRODUCTION. FAO HAS BEEN IN CHARGE OF THE AGRICULTURAL SEGMENT OF THE OIL FOR FOOD (OFF) PROGRAM SINCE 1997 AND HAS DISBURSED OVER USD 450 MILLION IN INPUTS. IN CENTRAL AND SOUTH IRAQ, FAO OBSERVED GOVERNMENT OF IRAQ (GOI) INPUT DISTRIBUTION TO BENEFICIARIES; IN THE CASE OF DUAL USE PRODUCTS, CERTIFIED THAT THEY WERE INTENDED FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES. IN THE NORTHERN GOVERNATES, FAO FULLY IMPLEMENTED THE AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM BY PROVIDING INPUTS IN SUPPORT OF SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL REHABILITATION, SUCH AS VACCINATION OF LIVESTOCK AND WELL DRILLING. FAO HAS ALSO DEVELOPED A 13 YEAR REHABILITATION PLAN FOR THE NORTHERN GOVERNATES WHICH FAO OFFICIALS RECOMMENDED TO "THE NEW AUTHORITIES."

14. FAO OFFICIALS RECALLED THAT THE UN USD 2.2 BILLION FLASH APPEAL CONTAINED A USD 87 MILLION AGRICULTURAL COMPONENT. ACCORDING TO THE FAO, 30 PERCENT OF THE POPULATION LIVES IN RURAL AREAS AND ONE THIRD OF THE COUNTRY'S FOOD REQUIREMENTS ARE GROWN NATIONALLY; AGRICULTURE MUST BE A PRIORITY. AT THE SAME TIME, MUCH AS THE COUNTRY HAS DEPENDED ON FOOD RATIONS, SO AGRICULTURE HAS BEEN DEPENDENT ON STATE SUPPLIED INPUTS; ACCORDING TO THE FAO, THE IRAQI AGRICULTURAL SECTOR "CANNOT NOW FUNCTION WITHOUT SUPPORT."

15. ACKNOWLEDGING THAT FOOD AID NEEDS WERE BEING MET, FAO  
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STAFF CAUTIONED THAT THE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION SIDE WAS "NOT IN SUCH GOOD SHAPE." A WHEAT HARVEST ESTIMATED AT 700,000 TONS WAS IN NEED OF IMMEDIATE SUPPORT IN THE FORM OF TRUCKS FOR TRANSPORT, SPARE PARTS FOR COMBINES AND FUEL. FAO STRESSED THAT THE TOP PRIORITY WAS THE CURRENT HARVEST AND THE CURRENT PLANTING SEASON. CONCERNING SEED, FAO REPORTED THAT PREVIOUSLY SEED WAS NOT IMPORTED -- ALL NATIONAL NEEDS WERE OBTAINED FROM FARMERS. HOWEVER, FOR THE NEXT SEASON, THEY ANTICIPATED HAVING TO "IMPORT MASSIVELY."

16. ON POULTRY PRODUCTION, FAO STATED THAT 4,000 FARMS HAD BEEN PRODUCING POULTRY. THEY NOTED THAT POULTRY WAS AN IMPORTANT SOURCE OF PROTEIN, AS MEAT WAS NOT PROVIDED IN THE FOOD RATION. MANY FARMS WERE NOT FUNCTIONING; BIRDS HAD DIED, THERE WAS NO ELECTRICITY. IRAQ'S 1.5 MILLION CATTLE AND 18 MILLION SHEEP AND GOATS NEEDED VACCINES, BUT COLD CHAINS NEEDED TO BE RESTORED BEFORE VACCINES WERE PROVIDED.

17. FAO STRESSED THAT THE ORGANIZATION HAS THE IN-COUNTRY

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ACTION IO-00

INFO	LOG-00	AF-00	AID-00	AMAD-00	CIAE-00	COME-00	CTME-00
	INL-00	DODE-00	ITCE-00	SRPP-00	EB-00	EXME-00	EUR-00
	UTED-00	FDRE-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	ITC-01	NEA-00	NSAE-00
	OES-00	OIC-02	OMB-01	OPIC-01	SS-00	STR-00	TEST-00
	TRSE-00	SA-00	SAS-00	/006W			

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R 290700Z MAY 03  
FM AMEMBASSY ROME  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0148  
INFO USDA FAS WASHDC 2685  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
USMISSION GENEVA  
USEU BRUSSELS 3251  
AMEMBASSY KABUL  
AMEMBASSY LUANDA  
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA  
SADC COLLECTIVE  
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
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SUBJECT: FAO ON "POST CONFLICT" AND OTHER EMERGENCY  
ACTIVITIES

NATIONALS, THE EXPERIENCE AND THE CAPACITY TO PLAY A  
SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN IRAQ'S AGRICULTURAL REHABILITATION.  
TO DATE, HOWEVER, ONLY THE UK HAD PROVIDED USD 2.2  
MILLION FOR POULTRY AND VEGETABLE PRODUCTION. IN URGING  
DONOR SUPPORT, FAO OFFICIALS NOTED THAT EXISTING  
CONTRACTS UNDER THE OFF PROGRAM WAS MEANT TO ADDRESS THE  
SITUATION BEFORE THE CURRENT CRISIS. FOR EXAMPLE, THEY  
HAVE EXISTING CONTRACTS FOR POULTRY FEED, BUT NOT FOR  
VACCINES, DRUGS AND INFRASTRUCTURE REPAIR. (FURTHERMORE,  
FAO HAD THOUGHT THAT THEY COULD COUNT ON RESOURCES WITHIN  
COUNTRY, BUT USD 500 MILLION OF AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS  
IN STORAGE HAD BEEN STOLEN AND THE FAO OFFICES IN BAGHDAD  
WERE LOOTED.) THAT BEING SAID, ACCORDING TO ASSISTANT  
DIRECTOR GENERAL (ADG) HENRI CARSALADE, FAO IS REVISING  
ITS SHARE OF THE UN APPEAL TO REFLECT ITS ASSESSMENT OF  
THE SITUATION ON THE GROUND AND TO ENSURE THAT THERE IS  
NO OVERLAP WITH OFF.

18. DONOR QUESTIONS FOCUSED ON THE ABSENCE OF MARKET  
MECHANISMS IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR AND THE NEED FOR  
FUNDAMENTAL REFORMS. FAO OFFICIALS AGREED ON THE NEED  
FOR REFORMS, NOTING THAT FAO HAD BEEN WORKING ON THIS  
ISSUE SINCE BEFORE THE CONFLICT. ADG CARSALADE STATED  
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THAT "ONCE THE AUTHORITIES ARE GIVEN LEGITIMACY BY THE  
UN" THE FAO WOULD BE ABLE TO "OFFER PROPOSALS FOR FAR-  
REACHING REFORM TO THE AUTHORITIES."

AFGHANISTAN -- MOVING FROM INPUTS TO POLICY

19. IN 2002, ENDOWED WITH FULL FUNDING FROM DONORS (SOME  
USD 44 MILLION), FAO FOCUSED ON PROVIDING AGRICULTURAL  
INPUTS SUCH AS SEEDS, LOCUST CONTROL AND PROVISION OF  
CHICKS AND EGGS. ACCORDING TO FAO OFFICIALS THESE INPUTS  
SUCCESSFULLY REACHED "ALL CORNERS" OF AFGHANISTAN,  
INCLUDING REFUGEES AND INTERNALLY DISPLACED.

110. FAO IS MOVING AWAY FROM INPUTS IN 2003 AND TOWARDS  
POLICY ADVICE AND TRAINING FOR THE MINISTRY OF  
AGRICULTURE (MINAG). ULTIMATELY FAO HOPES TO MOVE FOOD  
SECURITY AND EARLY WARNING ACTIVITIES INTO THE MINAG. A  
SAMPLE OF CURRENT ACTIVITIES INCLUDE: TRAINING FOR  
GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN OFFICIALS TO PUT IN PLACE  
LOCUST CONTROL MEASURES; PERFORMING, WITH THE MINAG, A  
SURVEY ON WATER RESOURCES AND IRRIGATION; A SURVEY ON THE  
HORTICULTURE SECTOR, INCLUDING STUDIES ON MARKETING AND  
POST-HARVEST. FAO SUPPORT FOR VACCINATION AGAINST  
LIVESTOCK DISEASES (INCLUDING FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE,  
ANTHRAX, NEWCASTLE DISEASE AND SHEEP POX) CONTINUES TO BE  
EXTREMELY IMPORTANT, NOT ONLY FOR AFGHANISTAN, BUT TO  
PROTECT LIVESTOCK IN NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES. FAO AND WFP  
WILL FIELD AN ANNUAL CROP ASSESSMENT MISSION IN JUNE  
12003.

OPIUM POPPY CULTIVATION  
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111. FAO ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GENERAL HENRI CARSALADE NOTED  
THAT OPIUM PRODUCTION HAD "EXPLODED" IN 2002; THE AREAS  
WHERE POPPY WAS GROWN (SOME 40 PERCENT OF ARABLE LAND)  
WERE KNOWN AND MAPPED, BUT THE AREAS WERE "NOT CONTROLLED  
BY THE CENTRAL AUTHORITIES." FAO IS COLLABORATING WITH  
THE UN OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL POLICY (UNDCP) TO DEVELOP  
PROPOSALS FOR ALTERNATIVE LIVELIHOODS TO OPIUM POPPY  
CULTIVATION, FOCUSING ON EXPANDING TRADITIONAL CROPS AND  
IN LINE WITH THE GOA'S SOON TO BE FINALIZED NATIONAL DRUG  
CONTROL STRATEGY. FAO OFFICIALS NOTED THAT FAO HAS  
INITIATED FAO'S SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR FOOD SECURITY (SPFS)  
IN AFGHANISTAN, AND THAT TWO OF THE SPFS PROJECTS ARE TO  
BE IN POPPY-GROWING AREAS. (COMMENT: SPFS PROJECTS ARE  
TYPICALLY PILOT-TYPE PROJECTS CO-FUNDED BY FAO AND THE  
HOST GOVERNMENT. END COMMENT). AFGHAN PRESIDENT KARZAI  
HAD ALSO REQUESTED FAO SUPPORT FOR REFORESTATION, AND FAO  
WILL BE DEVELOPING PROPOSALS IN THAT AREA.

...BUT RESOURCES STILL NEEDED

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ACTION IO-00

INFO	LOG-00	AF-00	AID-00	AMAD-00	CIAE-00	COME-00	CTME-00
	INL-00	DODE-00	ITCE-00	SRPP-00	EB-00	EXME-00	EUR-00
	UTED-00	FDRE-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	ITC-01	NEA-00	NSAE-00
	OES-00	OIC-02	OMB-01	OPIC-01	SS-00	STR-00	TEST-00
	TRSE-00	SA-00	SAS-00	/006W			

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R 290700Z MAY 03  
FM AMEMBASSY ROME  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0149  
INFO USDA FAS WASHDC 2686  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION GENEVA  
USEU BRUSSELS 3252  
AMEMBASSY KABUL  
AMEMBASSY LUANDA  
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO  
USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA  
SADC COLLECTIVE  
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
AMEMBASSY ANKARA

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SUBJECT: FAO ON "POST CONFLICT" AND OTHER EMERGENCY  
ACTIVITIES

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112. ACCORDING TO ANNE BAUER, DIRECTOR OF FAO'S EMERGENCY OPERATIONS AND REHABILITATION DIVISION, THE LATEST APPEAL FOR AFGHANISTAN, ISSUED IN DECEMBER 2002, CONTAINED A USD 44 MILLION COMPONENT FOR AGRICULTURE. SHE NOTED THAT DONORS HAD NOT YET RESPONDED AS GENEROUSLY AS IN 2002 AND SHE APPEALED TO DONORS TO FUND THE ACTIVITIES, "OR ELSE FAO WILL NEED TO SCALE DOWN DRAMATICALLY IN AFGHANISTAN."

SOUTHERN AFRICA -- LOOKING THROUGH THE HIV/AIDS LENS

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113. FAO OFFICIALS NOTED THAT THE FOOD EMERGENCY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA WAS "NOT JUST A DROUGHT-INDUCED CRISIS" AND CALLED ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT, EVEN WITH IMPROVING WEATHER AND CROPS, SOME 15 MILLION HIV/AIDS VICTIMS WOULD STILL NEED SOME FORM OF FOOD AID. WFP OFFICIAL FRANCESCO STRIPPOLI ADDED THAT THE SITUATION IN ZIMBABWE AND SOUTHERN MOZAMBIQUE WAS "NOT VERY PROMISING;" A REGIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATION WAS STILL NEEDED, BUT "LOWER THAN THE CURRENT ONE." HE NOTED THAT THE SITUATION IN ZIMBABWE WAS CAUSED BY "GOVERNANCE" PROBLEMS.

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114. FAO OFFICIALS STATED THAT THEY HAD RAISED SOME USD 17 MILLION -- ABOUT 70 PERCENT OF THE APPEAL. THEY HAVE BENEFITED SOME 500,000 HOUSEHOLDS WITH SEEDS, TOOLS, LIVESTOCK REPLENISHMENT, ANIMAL DISEASE CONTROL AND DROUGHT AND LABOR-SAVING TOOLS AND PRACTICES. FAO OFFICIALS STATED THAT, LOOKING UPSTREAM, THEY WOULD "REVIEW EVERYTHING FAO DOES IN THE REGION THROUGH THE HIV/AIDS LENS." THIS INCLUDES ADDING NEW INDICATORS FOR EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS AND TARGETING ELDERLY WOMEN AND ORPHANS("THOSE WHO BEAR THE BRUNT OF THE CRISIS.")

115. DONOR COMMENTS ON SOUTHERN AFRICA FOCUSED ON ZIMBABWE, PARTICULARLY QUESTIONS ON FAO'S "DIALOGUE WITH THE GOVERNMENT" CONCERNING OPENING MARKETS AND THE SITUATION OF DISPLACED COMMERCIAL FARMERS AND FARM WORKERS. FAO OFFICIALS RESPONDED THAT THE "SITUATION IN ZIMBABWE REMAINS VERY SERIOUS." CONCERNING THE MOST RECENT CROP ASSESSMENT, FAO OFFICIAL HENRI JOSSEBRAND STATED THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF ZIMBABWE WAS STILL "DEFINING ITS POSITION POSITION" AS REGARDS THIS YEAR'S HARVEST."

ANGOLA

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116. FAO OFFICIALS BRIEFLY DISCUSSED THE SITUATION IN ANGOLA. IN 2002, DONORS (PRIMARILY THE UNITED STATES AND JAPAN) PROVIDED FUNDS FOR SEEDS AND TOOLS. IN 2003 THE FAO APPEAL IS FOCUSING ON ASSISTANCE TO INTERNALLY DISPLACED (IDP) ANGOLANS. WITH THE USD 7.5 MILLION ALREADY RAISED (INCLUDING FROM THE UNITED STATES) THEY EXPECT TO REACH SOME 360,000 HOUSEHOLDS. THE FUNDS

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RAISED, HOWEVER, ARE SHORT OF THE APPEAL. FAO CALLED THE CAMPAIGN TO REACH RETURNING IDPS "THE LARGEST CAMPAIGN ANYWHERE."

SRI LANKA - SIMULTANEOUS PROGRAMMING OF EMERGENCY AND DEVELOPMENT

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117. THE JUNE 9-10 PLEDGING CONFERENCE IN TOKYO WILL ENABLE FAO TO EMBARK ON A DETAILED PROJECT PREPARATION FOR SRI LANKA. FAO OFFICIALS REPORTED THAT "SINCE THE PEACE PROCESS WAS MOVING POSITIVELY" IN SRI LANKA, THEY WERE DOING "SIMULTANEOUS PROGRAMMING" OF DEVELOPMENT AND EMERGENCY ACTIVITIES. TWENTY YEARS OF CONFLICT HAS RESULTED IN REDUCED AREAS OF CULTIVATION, LIVESTOCK LOST AND FISHING AFFECTED BY DESTRUCTION OF FISHING INFRASTRUCTURE. FAO'S USD 135 MILLION APPEAL IS INTENDED TO WORK ON IMPROVING INSTITUTIONAL AND HUMAN RESOURCE CAPACITY, IMPROVE ACCESS TO PRODUCTION ASSETS AND START INFRASTRUCTURE REHABILITATION.

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ACTION IO-00

INFO	LOG-00	AF-00	AID-00	AMAD-00	CIAE-00	COME-00	CTME-00
	INL-00	DODE-00	ITCE-00	SRPP-00	EB-00	EXME-00	EUR-00
	UTED-00	FDRE-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	ITC-01	NEA-00	NSAE-00
	OES-00	OIC-02	OMB-01	OPIC-01	SS-00	STR-00	TEST-00
	TRSE-00	SA-00	SAS-00	/006W			

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R 290700Z MAY 03

FM AMEMBASSY ROME  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0150  
INFO USDA FAS WASHDC 2687  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
USMISSION GENEVA  
USEU BRUSSELS 3253  
AMEMBASSY KABUL  
AMEMBASSY LUANDA  
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO  
USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA  
SADC COLLECTIVE  
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA  
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT  
AMEMBASSY ANKARA

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SUBJECT: FAO ON "POST CONFLICT" AND OTHER EMERGENCY  
ACTIVITIES

SUDAN

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¶18. FAO FIELDED AN ASSESSMENT MISSION TO SUDAN IN FEB/MARCH OF 2003. BASED ON THE ASSUMPTIONS THAT: THE PEACE AGREEMENT WILL REMAIN FRAGILE; INSECURITY WILL INCREASE IN POCKETS; ACCESS WILL INCREASE; NATURAL RESOURCE-BASED CONFLICTS WILL CONTINUE AND BUILDING CAPACITY FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE AND INSTITUTIONS WILL TAKE A WHILE, FAO IS DEVELOPING A STRATEGIC APPROACH BASED ON THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS. THIS INCLUDES: USING RELIEF TO LEVERAGE DEVELOPMENT OUTCOMES, INTEGRATING CAPACITY BUILDING WITH RELIEF AND RECOVERY USING MARKET BASED INPUTS, WORKING WITH OTHER ACTORS (IOM, WFP AND UNICEF) ON REINTEGRATION OF IDPS. IN THE SHORT TERM, FAO IS FOCUSING ON IMPROVING PRODUCTIVE CAPACITY OF THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR. OF THE USD 320 MILLION FOR THE UN'S "QUICK START" PROGRAM, USD 127 IS FOR FOOD AID, AND USD 27 MILLION IS FOR AGRICULTURE

FAO/WFP COLLABORATION

¶19. WFP OFFICIAL FRANCESCO STRIPPOLI EXPLAINED THAT THAT  
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FAO AND WFP WERE "AT A NEW STAGE OF HIGHLY INTEGRATED COOPERATION." ACCORDING TO STRIPPOLI, THE TWO ORGANIZATIONS WERE "TAKING STOCK" OF WHERE THEY WORK TOGETHER, AND MOVING FORWARD BASED ON LESSONS LEARNED. CURRENTLY THEY ARE WORKING ON IMPROVING JOINT ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY AND ON HIV/AIDS AND HAVE RECENTLY SIGNED AN AGREEMENT ON "LOGISTICS AND MUTUAL SUPPORT IN THE FIELD."

COMMENT

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¶20. THE PRESENCE OF A SENIOR WFP OFFICIAL AT AN FAO DONOR BRIEFING ON EMERGENCY ACTIVITIES WAS A FIRST -- AND A MOST WELCOME SIGN OF IMPROVED COORDINATION BETWEEN THE TWO ORGANIZATIONS. HALL

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